

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail to:
Commissioner for Patents,
P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On 21 April 2004.

Signed:

Paula Faulk Hurley

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Katherine J. Klumb	Attorney Docket No.: VASC 1002-12
Application No.: 10/731,737	Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: December 9, 2003	Group: 3738
Title: Expandable Coil Endoluminal Prosthesis	Confirmation No.: 5145
	Customer No. 22470

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56. If this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP §609. Such information therefore is not listed herein unless it is desired that the information be printed on a patent issuing from the subject application.

Enclosed with this statement are the following:

- X Form PTO/SB/08A. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.
- X A copy of each cited document as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98. However, since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of U. S. Patents and U. S. Patent Application Publications are not enclosed. (See O. G. Notice of August 5, 2003.) If a written English-language translation of a non-English language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in §1.56(c), a copy of the translation accompanies this statement, 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(ii), and satisfies the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance, MPEP §609A(3).

This statement should be considered because:

X **37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).** This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because:

It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

X ***Fee Authorization.*** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge underpayment of any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0869 (VASC 1002-12). A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

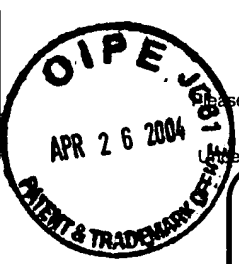
Respectfully submitted,
Haynes Beffel & Wolfeld LLP

Date: 21 April 2004

By: 

James F. Hann, Reg. No. 29,719

James F. Hann
Haynes Beffel & Wolfeld LLP
P.O. Box 366; 751 Kelly Street
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019
Ph. (650) 712-0340
Fax (650) 712-0263
jhann@hmbay.com
JFH:pfh



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/731,737	
			Filing Date	December 9, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	Katherine J. Klumb	
			Group Art Unit	3738	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	1	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	VASC 1002-12

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	3,993,078		Bergentz et al.	11-23-1976	
	A2	4,553,545		Maass et al.	11-19-1985	
	A3	4,665,918		Garza et al.	05-19-1987	
	A4	4,732,152		Wallsten et al.	03-22-1998	
	A5	4,760,849		Kropf	08-02-1988	
	A6	4,795,458		Regan	01-03-1989	
	A7	4,848,343		Wallsten et al.	07-18-1989	
	A8	4,875,480		Imbert	10-24-1989	
	A9	4,888,062		Wiktor	12-12-1989	
	A10	4,913,141		Hillstead	04-03-1990	
	A11	5,037,427		Harada et al.	08-06-1991	
	A12	5,147,370		McNamara et al.	09-15-1992	
	A13	5,201,757		Hevn et al.	04-13-1993	
	A14	5,246,445		Yachia et al.	09-21-1993	
	A15	5,306,294		Winston et al.	04-26-1994	
	A16	5,360,401		Turnland	11-01-1994	
	A17	5,372,600		Beyar et al.	12-13-1994	
	A18	5,411,551		Winston et al.	05-02-1995	
	A19	5,443,500		Sigwart	08-22-1995	
	A20	5,476,505		Limon	12-19-1995	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	B1	DE	29721310		Schmitz-Rode	03-26-1998		
	B2	EP	627 201		Schneider AG	12-07-1994		
	B3	EP	893 108		Gore Ent. Holdings, Inc.	01-27-1999		
	B4	WO	94/16629		Instant Inc.	08-04-1994		
	B5	WO	94/22379		Instant Inc.	10-13-1994		
	B6	WO	97/07756		Localmed, Inc.	03-06-1997		
	B7	WO	98/22159		Medtronic Instant Inc.,	05-28-1998		
	B8	WO	98/47447		William R. Dubrul	10-29-1998		
	B9	WO	98/57692		Ronald J. Solar	12-23-1998		
	B10	WO	97/40755		W.L. Gore & Assoc, Inc.	11-06-1997		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → +

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
Application Number		10/731,737			
Filing Date		December 9, 2003			
First Named Inventor		Katherine J. Klumb			
Group Art Unit		3738			
Examiner Name		Unassigned			
Attorney Docket Number		VASC 1002-12			
Sheet	2	of	3		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A21	5,607,445		Summers	03-04-1997	
	A22	5,683,451		Lenker et al.	11-04-1997	
	A23	5,749,919		Blanc	05-12-1998	
	A24	5,776,142		Gunderson	07-07-1998	
	A25	5,797,952		Klein	08-25-1998	
	A26	5,810,871		Tuckey et al.	09-22-1998	
	A27	5,824,052		Khosravi et al.	10-20-1998	
	A28	5,824,053		Khosravi et al.	10-20-1998	
	A29	5,824,054		Khosravi et al.	10-20-1998	
	A30	5,833,699		Chuter	11-10-1998	
	A31	5,836,966		St. Germain	11-17-1998	
	A32	5,843,092		Heller et al.	12-01-1998	
	A33	5,935,135		Bramfitt et al.	08-10-1999	
	A34	5,938,697		Killion et al.	08-17-1999	
	A35	5,980,533		Holman	11-09-1999	
	A36	6,019,779		Thorad et al.	02-01-2000	
	A37	6,027,516		Kolobow et al.	02-22-2000	
	A38					
	A39					
	A40					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (If known)				
	B11	WO	97/21399		Glogar, Helmut, Dietmar	06-19-1997		
	B12							
	B13							
	B14							
	B15							
	B16							
	B17							
	B18							
	B19							
	B20							

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

+

+

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/731,737
				Filing Date	December 9, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Katherine J. Klumb
				Group Art Unit	3738
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	3	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	VASC 1002-12

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

+